

# Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program

City of Manchester Environmental Protection Division

300 Winston Street

Manchester, NH 03103

## Fall 2020 Program Update

October 25, 2020

(603) 665-6899 / [www.manchesternh.gov/urbanponds](http://www.manchesternh.gov/urbanponds)

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## Manchester's Urban Ponds: Past, Present & Future A Celebration of the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## Through November 28<sup>th</sup>! There's still time to see this exciting exhibit and learn about both the history and future of Manchester's ponds!

Although ponds may not be the first thing one thinks about in Manchester, the Queen City has several ponds that have played an important role in the area's history. More recently, the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program, established in 2000, has led cleanup efforts to help return the city's ponds to their historic uses. This exhibit looks at the history of several of Manchester's urban ponds, including Crystal Lake, Dorrs Pond, Maxwell Pond, Nutts Pond, Pine Island Pond, and Stevens Pond and celebrates the accomplishments of the Urban Ponds Restoration Program over the last 20 years.



Sponsored by City of Manchester, Department of Public Works, Environmental Protection Division

***"Manchester's Urban Ponds: Past, Present, and Future" will be on display in the Millyard Museum's  
State Theater Gallery through November 28<sup>th</sup>.***

# The Weekly Dion

On July 16, 2020 Jen Drociak was a guest on the first episode of Season 4 of “The Weekly Dion” 95.3 FM WMNH. During the show, Jen talked with Ben and Daryl Dion about the history of Manchester’s urban ponds, the exhibit at the Millyard Museum, and the future of Manchester’s urban ponds. Jen also took several questions from listeners who called in. To date, this show remains the most watched in the show’s history with 2.1K views on facebook. If you missed it, you can view it at: [The Weekly Dion](#).



## Exhibit Opening

On August 18, 2020, 30 project partners and friends gathered at the Millyard Museum for a socially-distanced exhibit opening reception. John Clayton, Executive Director of the Manchester Historic Association, Fred McNeill, Chief Engineer of the Manchester Environmental Protection Division, and Jen Drociak, Program Coordinator and co-curator of the exhibit all gave opening remarks. In addition, Jen thanked all project partners, volunteers, and attendees for their support over the past 20 years and provided attendees with goody bags consisting of “Black Brook Licorice”, a “Commodore Nutty Buddy”, a “Hermit of Mosquito Pond Cookie”, and a “Pine Island Pond Moxie Bottle House Nerve Tonic.”





# 2020 Pond and Park Cleanups

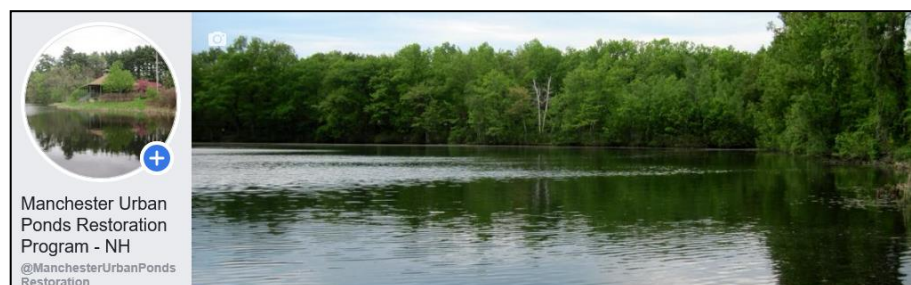
Although the formal annual pond and park cleanups scheduled for April and May were cancelled due to COVID-19, a few friends got together to socially-distance and pick up some trash anyway. On April 23, 2020, two volunteers removed 13 bags of trash from Stevens Pond / Stevens Pond Park and on that same date, four volunteers removed 10 bags of trash from Black Brook / Blodget Park. And on May 2, 2020, three volunteers removed 14 bags of trash from Nutts Pond / Precourt Park. Thank you to Jessica Arnold, Jen Drociak, Kristina Drociak, Martha Frechette, and Ron Piecuch for their assistance in removing 37 bags of trash, 1 shopping cart, four tires, and other debris from Manchester's urban ponds and parks!



**Since 2000**, the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program has organized **119 clean-up events**. Over the past **21 seasons** of cleanups, **1,071 volunteers** have spent approximately **3,567 hours** collecting **2,431 bags of trash!** This does not include the items illegally “dumped” such as **shopping carts (99)**, **tires (441)**, car batteries, other car parts, construction debris, and other items. In addition, the value of volunteer time spent at these clean-ups has amounted to over **\$78,000** over these past 21 seasons!

# 2020 Water Quality Monitoring

This year, due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19 and its effect on the state laboratories that analyze much of our data, water quality monitoring groups were only able to monitor twice a summer season instead of the historic three (June, July, and August). As such, Dorrs Pond, Nutts Pond, and Stevens Pond were monitored in June and August while Crystal Lake and Pine Island Pond were monitored in July and September. Black Brook and McQuesten Brook were monitored three times this year since all samples were measured in the field. While the “[All Ponds Water Quality Data Tables 2000-2020](#)” document has been updated to reflect this year’s average results, the individual reports (produced by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Volunteer Lake Assessment Program and Volunteer River Assessment Program) have not yet been completed



## Be Sure to “Like” Us on facebook!

The Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program facebook page was created in 2012. To date, 423 people have “liked” this page and 447 people “follow” it. Thank you to all of our friends!

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